

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 were originally filed in the present application. Claims 5 and 9 have subsequently been cancelled by this amendment. Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10 are currently pending and at issue. Of the remaining claims, Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to address the rejections set forth in the Office Action of February 23, 2005.

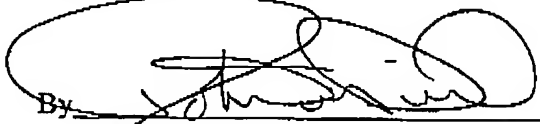
Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0192570 to Smith ("Smith"). Claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 10 stand initially rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Smith. Original Claims 5 and 9 were merely objected to, and considered to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim. Claim 5 depended directly from Claim 1, while Claim 9 depended directly from Claim 7.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 7 to include the limitations of Claims 5 and 9, respectively. Accordingly, Claims 1 and 7 should now be in condition for allowance. Claims 2-4, 6, 8 and 10 depend from at least one of these independent claims, adding additional limitations thereto. As any independent claim distinguishes over the cited art, so to does the claim which depends therefrom. Accordingly, Claims 2-4, 6, 8 and 10 are also in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the amended claims and a notice of allowance as to all remaining claims in the present application.

If any informalities remain which can be addressed by a telephone call, the examiner is asked to contact the undersigned to expedite this matter before the PTO.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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